

Record editor Alex Manly and his staff. According to family tradition and other accounts, Manly escaped from the city well before the march on the press and perhaps even before the issuance of the White Declaration of Independence. Thomas Clawson, editor of the *Messenger* who had sold the printing press to Manly, recalled that he asked Walker Taylor if he could approach Manly on the ninth and tell him to leave town as soon as possible. Manly's family recalled that Clawson had given Manly the codes to pass through Red Shirt picket lines on the outskirts of the city as well as twenty-five dollars to assist in his escape. According to this tradition, Frank and Alex Manly left the city in a buggy and used the passcode several times as they passed for whites.⁶ According to other accounts, Alex's brother Frank and *Daily Record* staff member J. N. Goins were in Wilmington when Waddell began his march to the press. Hearing gunshots, the two fled the city before pickets ordered out by Roger Moore were in place. With Manly and his

⁶ Clawson's account is confusing, but he evidently had worked to save Manly's life the day before the riot. He recalled that a group of men sought to lynch Manly after the White Declaration of Independence was written and that he had informed them that Manly was gone. He boasted that his "trip beyond the dead-line that night caused the negro editors to flee, which made it so the pre-arranged 'lynching' and burning party did not go to Seventh and Nun streets to fall into the ambush set about the Record shop." According to Clawson, this ambush consisted of about "two or three hundred armed negroes" who were hiding in the neighborhood to protect the shop and the *Record* staff. Clawson decided that because of his actions, "the 'lynching party' set for that night of November 9 did not take place, but the very next morning hundreds of enraged and affronted white men smashed the negro newspaper shop." It is not clear if such activity happened on the night of the ninth or if Clawson jumbled his memories of the events. His manuscript is undated and could have been written years after the event. McDuffie, "Politics in Wilmington," 687-8; Clawson, "Recollections and Memories."

staff out of the picture, the white leaders moved toward removing other men who could forestall or expose their reclamation of the city.⁷

Following a list provided by the Secret Nine, Colonel Taylor dispatched units of the WLI to find and arrest men slated for banishment.⁸ Those who could be located on the tenth were placed in the jail overnight, and the search continued into the following days for other men who evaded capture. Some such as Robert Reardon and James Redmon were never captured.⁹ Six

⁷ Cody, "After the Storm," 31; *Washington Times*, November 22, 1898.

⁸ J. Allan Taylor, Walker Taylor's brother, a member of the Secret Nine and the Committee of Twenty-Five, was in charge of the banishment campaign. There are discrepancies in the accounts of witnesses as to the men imprisoned in the jail overnight. Thomas Clawson recalled that black and white leaders were jailed together overnight. Waddell said that seven black leaders were arrested and jailed overnight and were the same men that were marched under protection of the military to the train. Waddell further stated that others, including three whites, had been sent out but were protected from lynching elsewhere and those men were taken under guard to another train. Thomas Cowan, editor of the *Dispatch*, wrote that several whites were interred in jail overnight and that

Waddell and Moore worked together to prevent the lynch mob from taking action. John D. Bellamy said that the men participating in the banishment campaign were not affiliated with the Committee of Twenty-Five headed by Waddell. He further explained that the banishments were carried out by "some self-assumed authority by some young men." Bellamy also observed that "a good number of us" disliked the fact that some of the men were sent out of town. "Minutes of the Association of the WLI," North Carolina Collection; Clawson, "Recollections and Memories;" *Colliers*, November 26, 1898; James Cowan, "The Wilmington Race Riot;" *Contested Election Case*, 258.

⁹ George Boylan recounted the WLI search for Redmon in 1905: "I think the swiftest thing I remember was the negro Redmon's coat tails. A squad had been sent out to find his house and when we got there, there were two houses just alike and there was some dispute as to which was his house and I jumped out of the wagon just about between the